

# Season 3 of AMERICA REFRAMED with Host Natasha Del Toro continues with CAMBODIAN SON by Masahiro Sugano

# Tuesday, May 19, 2015, on Public Television's WORLD Channel at 8 p.m.

http://worldchannel.org/programs/america-reframed/ www.facebook.com/AmericaReFramed Twitter: @americareframed #americareframed

"To capture Kosal's life ... Sugano combined guerilla-style footage of Kosal's everyday life with interviews with his friends and family across four continents."

— Bennett Murray, The Phnom Penh Post

MEDIA RELATIONS Neyda Martinez 917 656 7846 neyda.martinez@gmail. com

AMERICA REFRAMED 20 Jay Street Suite 940 Brooklyn, NY 11201

P: 212-989-8121 F: 212-989-8230 americareframed.com April 30, 2015 -- (New York, NY) – Masahiro Sugano's documentary **CAMBODIAN SON** will have has its national television broadcast premiere on Tuesday, May 19, 2015, at 8 p.m. on WORLD Channel as part of the third season of the **AMERICA REFRAMED** series. (Check local listings.) Audiences across the nation can also view the film FREE starting May 20, 2015 on http://worldchannel.org/.

Born in a refugee camp in Cambodia, poet <u>Kosal Khiev</u> was lucky to escape the wartorn country before he was two years old. Granted asylum, Khiev grew up in the U.S. with his mother and siblings. By the age of 16, he was convicted of attempted murder and spent the next 14 years in jail—including 18 months of solitary confinement in the New Folsom State Prison in California. Fatefully, during his time in solitary Khiev experienced a breakthrough that forged his path to freedom. In jail, he found writing and spoken-word mentors and upon release became a student/participant in the inaugural class of "<u>The Actors' Gang</u>" led by Artistic Director and Founder Tim Robbins.

As a refugee with permanent resident status but no citizenship in the U.S., however, Khiev was deported to Cambodia, a country he's never known. "How do you survive when you belong nowhere?" The documentary follows a year in the life of Khiev, while he navigates his new fame as Phnom Penh's premiere poet and receives the most important invitation of his career—to represent the Kingdom of Cambodia at the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad. Later he visits France for the first time where his life comes full circle and he faces a past he never dreamed of.

WINNER 2014 BEST DOCUMENTARY AWARD CAAMFEST



"Through Kosal's story in CAMBODIAN SON we travel with him through various countries while immersing ourselves in his emotional journey as he seeks to find his place in the world through poetry," says Chris Hastings, Co- Executive Producer, America ReFramed.

"AmDoc is thrilled to collaborate with WORLD Channel and WGBH on the third season of AMERICA REFRAMED presenting encores and television premieres of important films such as CAMBODIAN SON. As co-producers, we share a passion for storytellers committed to helping us gain a deeper and more nuanced understanding of America today," says Simon Kilmurry, Executive Director, American Documentary, Inc.

#### **Film Credits**

Director, Cinematographer, Editor: Masahiro Sugano

Producers: Masahiro Sugano and Anida Yoeu Ali

### **About AMERICA REFRAMED**

**AMERICA REFRAMED** is a co-production of the WORLD Channel and American Documentary, Inc. and is hosted by journalist Natasha Del Toro.

Through the lens of independent documentaries, AMERICA REFRAMED brings to national audiences compelling stories that illuminate the changing contours of an ever-evolving America. The 26-week, social-issue documentary series presents an array of personal voices and experiences, through which we learn from our past, understand our present and are challenged to seek new frameworks for America's future.

Season three of AMERICA REFRAMED curates a diverse selection of films highlighting innovative and artistic approaches to storytelling from emerging to veteran filmmakers alike. Viewers will be immersed in personal stories from the streets of towns big and small to the ex-burbs and country roads that span the spectrum of American life. The documentaries invite audiences to reflect on topics as varied as culture, healthcare, politics, gun violence, religion and more. Hosted by journalist Natasha Del Toro, several episodes will feature a roundtable discussion with special guest commentators and filmmakers.

AMERICA REFRAMED has won five 2013 CINE Golden Eagle Awards, three Telly Awards, a Gracie Award and recently was nominated for its second national Imagen Award, which honors films featuring Latinos and their culture in television and film.

# **AMERICA REFRAMED Series Credits**

Executive Producers: Chris Hastings, Simon Kilmurry

Series Producer: Carmen L. Vicencio Host: Natasha Del Toro



#### Web and Social Media

AMERICA REFRAMED can be accessed online via <a href="http://worldchannel.org/programs/america-reframed/">http://worldchannel.org/programs/america-reframed/</a> and,

https://www.facebook.com/WorldChannel https://www.facebook.com/AmericaReFramed

- @worldchannelPTV
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### **AMERICA REFRAMED Co-Producers**

American Documentary, Inc. (AmDoc) is a multimedia company dedicated to creating, identifying and presenting contemporary stories that express opinions and perspectives rarely featured in mainstream media outlets. AmDoc is a catalyst for public culture, developing collaborative strategic engagement activities around socially relevant content on television, online and in community settings. These activities are designed to trigger action, from dialogue and feedback to educational opportunities and community participation.

The WORLD Channel delivers the best of public television's nonfiction, news and documentary programing to US audiences through local public television stations and streaming online at worldchannel.org. WORLD reached 35 million unique viewers 18+ last year (55% adults 18-49) and over-indexes in key diversity demographics.\* Online, the WORLD Channel expands on broadcast topics and fuels dialogue across social media, providing opportunities for broad and diverse audience interaction. (Source: Nielsen Local Buyer Reach Scorecard 01/13-12/13)

WORLD is programmed by WGBH/Boston, in partnership with American Public Television and WNET/New York, and in association with the American Public Television and National Educational Telecommunications Association. Funding for the WORLD Channel is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and the Ford Foundation. Additional funding for AMERICA REFRAMED is provided by the MacArthur Foundation.

# **Media Contact**

Journalists and reviewers may contact Neyda Martinez at **917 656 7846** or via email at <a href="mailto:neyda.martinez@gmail.com">neyda.martinez@gmail.com</a> for interviews and special requests.

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